

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1053

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Leadership Middle Tennessee and its Class of 2012 for laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable organizations that encourage success and effective leadership by their participants; and

WHEREAS, one such notable organization is Leadership Middle Tennessee, a regional leadership institute established in 1999, which serves the ten-county area of Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Maury, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson counties in Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, entering the 21st Century, the communities of Middle Tennessee face many challenges in common with communities across the nation, as rapid growth and urbanization cause a blurring of traditional and historic civic boundaries; communities with sufficient foresight to recognize the changing dynamic will survive and thrive; and

WHEREAS, to succeed, Middle Tennessee's community leaders must develop a unity of purpose and meet regional challenges with regional vision – such is the mission of Leadership Middle Tennessee – to contribute to future planned and sustainable economic and community growth and development in the area by the participation of community, business, and government leaders in an annual regional leadership program and subsequent alumni activities designed to encourage and promote a regional perspective on current issues; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Leadership Middle Tennessee Class of 2012 are: Ronald Gossett and Debbie Martin of Cheatham County; Mary Beth Ikard, Hunter Gee, Cindy Hazen, Drusilla Martin, Paula Roberts, and Pete Wooten of Davidson County; Michael Curcio of Dickson County; Trent Ogilvie and Kimberly Willis of Maury County; Katie Gambill, Charles

Koon, and Karen Stanley of Montgomery County; Kay Bagby, Scott Bagwell, Jordan Osborne, and Faye Stubblefield of Robertson County; Evan Cope, Kathryn Jones, Mark Lee, and Juan Morales of Rutherford County; Matthew Coram and Thomas Tucker of Sumner County, Teresa Burns, Susan Cowden, James Crumlin, Jr., Charles Eldridge, and Diane Thorne of Williamson County; and Mike Manous, Danny Stewart, and Joel Usery of Wilson County; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Middle Tennessee is led by Chairman Jack Turner, of the Board of Directors, and enjoys the services of a full-time Executive Director located at Middle Tennessee State University, Susan Turner Taylor, who has served in that capacity since 1999; and

WHEREAS, focusing on leadership development and regional collaboration, Leadership Middle Tennessee's program consists of ten sessions plus an introductory session, commencing in September, with a special graduation ceremony in May; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Middle Tennessee recently hosted its Class of 2012, guiding its members through the nine-month program that covered a wide variety of subjects; and

WHEREAS, the topics covered by the Class of 2012 were: Teambuilding and Regionalism; Healthcare and Quality of Life; Sports, Leisure and Tourism; Education, Workforce Development, and Fort Campbell; Preservation; Justice System and the Judiciary; Legislative: Public Policy, Politics, and Economic Development; Technology Advancements; Housing; Transportation; and Natural Resources and Environmental Issues; and

WHEREAS, attending the monthly meetings at the various locations around Middle Tennessee, the members of the Class of 2012 each shared a personal story about their life with the group; strong friendships and relationships have been formed as a result; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Middle Tennessee also sponsors an alumni association of graduates, which, as it grows, will help leverage the benefits of the ongoing program by creating a growing network of local leaders with a regional perspective, providing a rich source of contributors to the curriculum of future classes, as well as serving as a source for nominations of participants in future classes, and becoming an overall regional asset; and

WHEREAS, through all of its activities, Leadership Middle Tennessee has successfully provided a basis for the cities, communities, and counties of Middle Tennessee to work more effectively together and has empowered the Class of 2012 to enhance this effort; and

WHEREAS, the Class of 2012 of Leadership Middle Tennessee is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and this worthy group should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend the Leadership Middle Tennessee Class of 2012 for their laudable service to the people of Middle Tennessee and this State, and thank Leadership Middle Tennessee and its graduates for striving to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.